

September 2021

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September 2021 Newsletter

Dear NYS GIS Association Member,

Here are a few items of news:

- Loss of NYS GIS Pioneer, Dr. Lee Herrington
- 2021 Fall Virtual Event & Annual Meeting
- Election Results
- Awards Results
- Upcoming Opportunities & Events



Sincerely,

The NYS GIS Association Communications Committee

* *Riesling Grapes, US Hwy 20, Portland, Chautauqua County (42.372, -79.483)*

NYS GIS Loses Pioneer, Dr. Lee Herrington

The NYS GIS Association mourns the loss of one of its pioneers, Dr. Lee Herrington. Dr. Herrington died on September 19th at the age of 88. His influence on the development of GIS in New York State cannot be overstated. Below are just a few of the tributes that have poured in on GISNY-L since the announcement of his death.

- *"Lee was a great person who touched many over the course of his personal and professional life. He will be missed and the New York State GIS community will forever be indebted to him for his contribution to our profession's efforts."*
- Sam Wear

helpful and his whole manner of encouraging us and helping us through our frustrations just illustrated what a great teacher and communicator he was." - Paula Kay Lazrus

- *"Dr. Lee Herrington greatly influenced me as a member of my MS thesis committee. His door was always open and even had a sign "Please Don't Knock Just Come On In." "Great BBQs at his house too for his students and friends." - Bruce Willett*
- *"I too have many great memories of Lee of both my undergraduate work at ESF and my Master's work. He always had kind words for me and gave me the confidence I needed to take on my first job. His wife [who died earlier this year] was also very kind to me when I worked at Moon Library." - Mike Fitzgerald*
- *"I had the honor of presenting Lee with the NYSGISA Lifetime Achievement Award in 2019. He was an inspiration to me in just the first few minutes of conversation!" - Ross Baldwin*
- *"He was so easy to work with and guided me through my work with a gentle touch. His usual answer to "Can I do this?" was "Why not?" I like to think that his mentoring example has influenced my management style. Really he was one of a handful of father figures in my life." "I will miss his smile, his wisdom, and his stories." - Jeff Herter*
- *"... Lee worked with me to develop a course schedule that would give me the experience I needed in GIS. He was very flexible and did all he could to help me out. I remember him inviting my wife and me to his place. He was always so generous to us. He took me under his wing and worked endlessly to help me succeed. He kind of became a second father figure to me." - Mickey Dietrich*
- *"I plan to create a Story Map honoring Dr. Herrington." "I am inspired to work on this tribute and hope that many of you will participate. I will be posting more information to GISNY-L in the next week or so." - Lis DeGironimo*

Dr. Herrington's obituary can be found

at <https://rwwfh.com/tribute/details/1446/Dr-Lee-Herrington/obituary.html>



2021 Fall Virtual Event & Annual Meeting

The 2021 Fall Virtual Event and Annual Meeting was a huge success. From a presentation by Paul Rooney and Adam Carnow of Esri on extending the influence of GIS in NYS to a heartwarming retrospective on the GIS response to 9/11 by GISMO members, the attendees were left with inspiration and food for thought.

In between, Tony Spicci of the GIS Certification Institute shared background on the GISP credential, new initiatives on the horizon, and information on the GISP exam. There was also a discussion on lessons learned from the NYS GIS response to the pandemic. Stay tuned for the recording of the two-day event, which we will post to the website.

We also managed to fit in our Annual Meeting! We'll let you know when the minutes will be available for your review. **Read on for the results of the elections and the awards.**



Election Results

Congratulations to...

- **President-Elect Mary Susan Knauss, GISP** (Consultant)
- **Directors to the Board:**
 - **Catherine DuBreck** (Town of Penfield)
 - **Dawn McCall, GISP** (Control Point Associates)

Board of Directors

Awards Results

Congratulations to our Award Winners!



GIS Spatial Application Award in recognition of impressive and innovative accomplishments across NYS

- Climate and Applied Forest Research Institute – *terrainr*: Programmatic Access to the USGS National Map for Landscape Visualization
 - Michael Mahoney, Climate and Applied Forest Research Institute, Ph.D. Student
 - Colin Beier, Climate and Applied Forest Research Institute, Associate Professor
 - Aidan Ackerman, Climate and Applied Forest Research Institute, Assistant Professor
- Mapping NYC COVID-19 community transmission via hospital workers. Funded by NYU
 - Delphine Protopapas, Brooklyn Technical High School
 - Ron Alweiss, Erasmus High School

GIS Champion in recognition is given for exemplary support of the GIS profession and of the value of GIS technology in society.

- Russell Urban-Mead

- Catherine DuBreck
- Susan Resnick
- Rebecca Smith

Thanks to all who took the time to nominate someone. Without your efforts, we would not know about the great work of these awardees.

Upcoming Opportunities & Events

- **URISA GIS-Pro Annual Conference** | Baltimore | 3 - 6 October 2021 | [More Information](#)
- **Southern Tier Users Group Meeting** | 14 October 2021 | 3 p.m. | Stay tuned for details.
- **NEARC Fall Conference** | 17 - 20 October 2021 | New Haven, CT | [More Information](#)
- **GIS-SIG Conference** | 16 November 2021 | RIT Inn & Conference Center | [More information](#)
- **30th International Cartographic Conference & Cartographic Exhibition** | 14 - 18 December 2021 | Florence, Italy | [More Information](#)



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